

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of March 25, 2008. With this response, claims 15 and 18-22 are amended, claim 23 is cancelled and all pending claims 15-22 are presented for reconsideration and favorable action.

In the Office Action, claims 15, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Those claims have been amended and it is believed that rejection may be withdrawn.

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 based upon U.S. 5,653,346 to Frei et al. With this response, claim 15 has been amended so as to define the resonator rod as formed as a spiral like curve starting at or near the centre of the sieve screen, the curve having a progressively increasing radius of curvature and extending through at least 270° about said centre.

None of the prior art cited discloses a resonator rod having this form. Such a form of a resonator rod provides the substantial advantage of enabling the vibrations to be distributed over a large area circular sieve efficiently, using a single rod structure. None of the prior art of record contemplates such an arrangement.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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